



# STATE OF WASHINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

Site No.

County: Pacific

Date: 11/16/2005 Compiler: Nicholas J. Smits

Location Information Restrictions: Unknown

## SITE DESIGNATION

Site Name:

Field or other designations: 05/1234-1 Site Type: Historic Maritime Property

## SITE LOCATION

\*USGS Quad Map Name: Astoria, Oreg.-Wash.

\*Legal Description: T. 9 N R. 10W Section(s) 24 Quarter Section(s): NW ¼ of NE ¼ of SW ¼

\*UTM: Zone 10 Easting: 4335205 Northing: 5121860

Latitude: Elevation (ft/m): 0 ft/0 m

Other Maps: Type:

Scale: Source:

Drainage, Major: Columbia River Drainage, Minor: n/a River Mile: n/a

Aspect: n/a Slope: n/a

\*Location Description (general to specific): Site 05/1234-1 is located on the north shore of the Columbia River, approximately 16 kilometers (km) (10 miles [mi]) east of where the river meets the Pacific Ocean, in southern Pacific County. Site 05/1234-1 is situated at the western end of the Clark's Dismal Nitch Safety Rest Area, which is located on the south side of State Route 401 at Milepost 1.0, approximately 1.6 km (1.0 mi) northeast of the north end of the US 101 Astoria-Megler Bridge.

Approach (to relocate): From the north end of the US 101 Astoria-Megler Bridge, take State Route 401 east approximately 1.6 km (1.0 mi) to the Clark's Dismal Nitch Safety Rest Area. Site 05/1234-1 is a portion of the pilings visible in the river at the western end of the Rest Area.

<sup>\*</sup>Mandatory information for official site designation

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## SITE DESCRIPTION

Narrative Description:

Site 05/1234-1 consists of an alignment of pilings related to a historic-period fish receiving station that operated in Megler Cove and was constructed in the 1880s (Appelo 1966:14). The alignment is a portion of one of two separate, related sets of pilings observed in the Columbia River southwest of the western end of the Clark's Dismal Nitch Safety Rest Area. The first set of pilings consists of a series of rows of pilings oriented approximately east/west and two narrow alignments of pilings connecting these rows to the shoreline to the north. Historic photographs show that before 1961, two walkways extended north from the rows of pilings in the river and converged near the mouth of Megler Creek, their alignments forming a "V" shape. Pilings visible in Megler Cove represent the westernmost of the two walkways. The modern landform, which was created sometime between 1957 and 1961, now covers the location where the second walkway (the eastern leg of the V) had been. Site 05/1234-1 represents this second, easternmost, buried walkway. Two pilings belonging to this walkway were observed in the mudflat in Megler Cove. No other pilings related to this walkway were observed, as this location is now covered in fill. The presence of pilings beneath the fill was inferred from historic photographs but was not verified.

A second set of related pilings was observed approximately 30 meters (100 feet) west of the first set of pilings. Also related to the historic-period fish receiving station, this set of pilings consists of several rows of pilings oriented northeast/southwest and a walkway that extends northwest to the shoreline west of Megler Cove.

The structures that once sat atop these pilings are no longer present.

Appelo, Carlton E.

1966 Brookfield – The Joe Megler Story (Wahkiakum County) Washington. Privately published, Deep River, Washington.

\*Site Type: Historic Maritime Property

Dimensions, Method of horizontal measurement:

Length: 61 m (200 ft) Direction: north/south Width: 3 m (10 ft) Direction: east/west

Depth: unknown Method of vertical measurement: n/a

Vegetation: On Site: Douglas-fir and Sitka spruce

Local: Douglas-fir and Sitka spruce Regional: *Picea sitchensis* zone

Landforms: On Site: filled bench Local: bluffs and steep hills

Water Resources: Type: Columbia River Distance: 0 m (0 ft) Permanence: Permanent

# **CULTURAL MATERIALS AND FEATURES**

Narrative Description: Aside from pilings related to the fish receiving station, no cultural materials or features

were observed.

Method of Collection(s): N/A

## SITE AGE

\*Component: Historic \*Dates: ca. 1880s \*Dating Method: Historic documents

\*Phase: N/A \*Basis for Phase Designation: N/A

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## SITE RECORDERS

Address: Archaeological Investigations Northwest, Inc. Observed by: Nicholas Smits, Judy Chapman, 2632 SE 162<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Portland, Oregon 97236

Jo Reese, Mini Sharma, Morgan Frazier, and

Paul Harris

\*Affiliation/Address: same

\*Date Recorded: 11/17/2005

\*Recorded by: Nicholas Smits

\*Affiliation Phone Number: 503-761-6605 Affiliation E-mail: nick@ainw.com

**Affiliation Address:** Revisited by:

Date Revisited:

## SITE HISTORY

Previous Work (references):

## SITE OWNERSHIP

\*Owner/Address: Washington State Department of Transportation

6639 Capital Blvd. SW

P. O. Box 47332

Olympia, Washington 98504-7332

Tax Lot No:

## FORM RECORDS

Other Forms (specify):

Smits, Nicholas J., Judith A. Chapman, and Jo Reese

2005 Cultural Resource survey for the Clark's Dismal Nitch Safety Rest Area Mater Plan, Pacific County, Washington. Archaeological Investigations Northwest, Inc. Report No. 1580. Prepared for EDAW, Inc., Seattle, Washington, and Perkins+Will, Seattle, Washington, and Washington State Department of Transportation Southwest Region, Vancouver, Washington.

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	USGS MAP
*Quad Name: Astoria, OregWash.  *Series: 7.5-minute  *Date: 1949, Photorevised 1984	
S	EE ATTACHED
Section: 24  Plot site location at left	
	SKETCH MAP
Legend: Known boundary: Possible boundary: Other symbols (other than USGS	
S	EE ATTACHED
Scale:	
North Arrow (mag.)	



